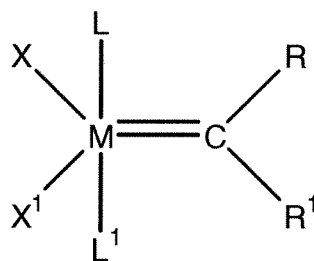


### **Amendment to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a hydrogenated nitrile rubber comprising reacting a nitrile rubber in the presence of hydrogen, optionally at least one co-olefin, and in the presence of at least one compound selected from the group consisting of compounds of the general formula I,



Formula I

wherein

M is Os or Ru,

R and R<sup>1</sup> are, independently, hydrogen or a hydrocarbon selected from the group consisting of C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkyl, aryl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> carboxylate, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkenyloxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkynyloxy, aryloxy, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkylthio, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkylsulfonyl and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>20</sub> alkylsulfinyl,

X and X<sup>1</sup> are independently any anionic ligand,

L is any neutral ligand

L' is selected from any 1-3 disubstituted imidazolidinylidene or 1,3 disubstituted imidazolidine ligand,

wherein a metathesis reaction and a hydrogenation reaction occur simultaneously.

2. (Original) A process according to claim 1 wherein the process occurs in the absence of any co-olefin.

3. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1 wherein ~~either~~ L is a trialkylphosphine and L<sup>1</sup> is an imidazolidinylidene, X and X<sup>1</sup> are chloride ions and M is ruthenium.
4. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1 ~~any of claims 1-4~~ wherein the ratio of compound to nitrile rubber is in the range of from 0.005 to 5.
5. (Currently Amended) A process according to any of claims claim 1~~[[5]]~~ wherein the process is carried out in an inert solvent selected from the group consisting of monochlorobenzene, dichloromethane, benzene, toluene, tetrahydrofuran and cyclohexane.